



QUASAR

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54

JAN

UK 95p

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COMICS
CODE
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WHEN TITANS
THROW DOWN!
IT'S *HYPERION*™
VS.
GLADIATOR!



DAY 93
HEE BINK

DIRECT EDITION



7 59606 04039 1

WENDELL VAUGHN... THE FIRST EARTH MAN EVER APPOINTED PROTECTOR OF THE UNIVERSE. BONDED TO THE ENERGY-TRANSFORMING QUANTUM-BANDS THAT ARE BOTH WEAPONS AND SYMBOLS OF HIS STATION, HE FIGHTS AN ONGOING BATTLE TO DEFEND ALL LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE FROM COSMIC EVIL!

Stan Lee presents

QUASAR

WHILE QUASAR AND SEVENTH OF EARTH'S MIGHTIEST SPACEFARING SUPERHUMANS WERE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOON, ATTEMPTING TO DEACTIVATE A DEVICE PUSHING THE MOON OUT OF ORBIT--

-- MEMBERS OF THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL GANG OF BRIGANDS KNOWN AS THE STARBLASTERS WERE ON EARTH TO KIDNAP QUASAR'S GIRLFRIEND, AMONG OTHER THINGS.

QUASAR'S GIRLFRIEND, KAYLA, IS THE CURRENT POSSESSOR OF THE STARBRAND, A POWER SOURCE LIKE NONE THIS UNIVERSE HAS EVER SEEN--

YOU'D BETTER BE IN THE HELPING MOOD, WATCHER, 'CAUSE I'VE NEVER NEEDED ANYBODY'S HELP LIKE I NEED HELP NOW!

-- AND IT IS SOMETHING THE BLASTERS WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO POSSESS!

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WEIRD! THIS IS THE FOURTH TIME I'VE BEEN HERE, AND ALL THE OTHER TIMES THE WATCHER'S ME SOMEWHERE SO I DON'T HAVE A CHANCE TO SNOOP TOO MUCH.

WHERE THE HECK IS HE THIS TIME?

COULD HE ACTUALLY BE DOING SOME FIELD WORK-- MAYBE CHECKING OUT THE IMPACT SITE OF THE MOONTHRUSTER DEVICE...?

WATCHER! WHERE ARE YOU?!

HAMMM...



WAIT-- I DIDN'T CHECK
OUT HIS FAVORITE ROOM--
HIS VIEWING CHAMBER!

HEY--
WHAT'S THIS
SCORCH
MARK?



LOOKS LIKE
THERE WAS A
BLAST HERE...
YEAH-- WEIRD
PARTICULATE
RESIDUE.

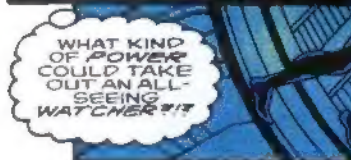


THIS HAVE SOMETHING TO
DO WITH THE MOONTHRUSTER
DEVICE A BUNCH OF US WERE
TRYING TO DEACTIVATE ON
THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOON?*

MAYBE
THE CREEPS
WHO PLANTED IT
WERE ALSO
HERE?

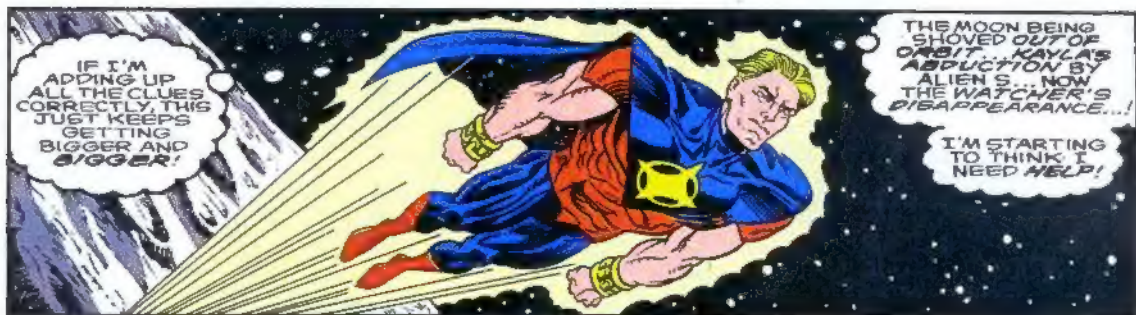


WAIT-A-MINUTE! IS IT
POSSIBLE THAT
THE WATCHER WAS IN A
STRUGGLE WITH SOMEBODY,
AND HE LOST?/?



WHAT KIND
OF POWER
COULD TAKE
OUT AN ALL-
SEEING
WATCHER?/?

*IN THE FIRST
THRILL-CHOCKED ISSUE OF
STARBLAST--MIKE



IF I'M
ADDING UP
ALL THE CLUES
CORRECTLY, THIS
JUST KEEPS
GETTING
BIGGER AND
BIGGER!

THE MOON BEING
SHOVED OUT OF
ORBIT... KAYLA'S
ABDUCTION BY
ALIENS... NOW
THE WATCHER'S
DISAPPEARANCE...

I'M STARTING
TO THINK I
NEED HELP!

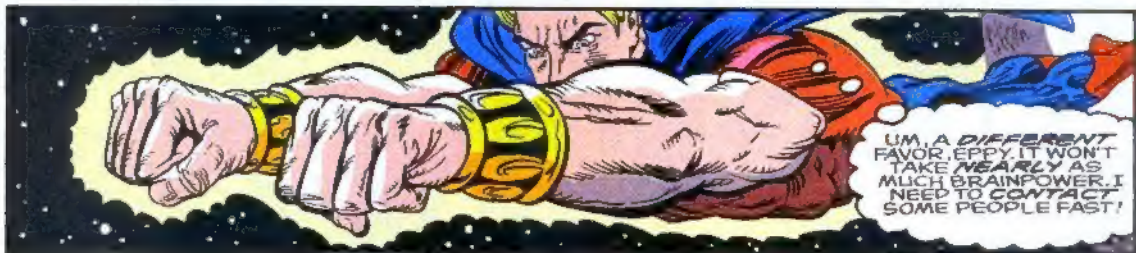


EPOCH? THIS IS QUASAR.
YOU THERE?

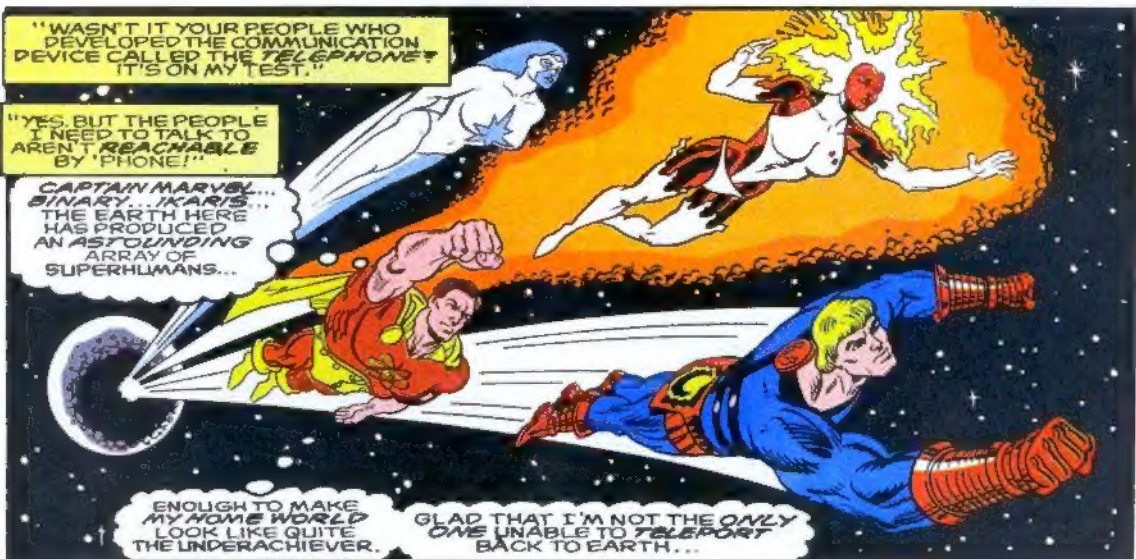


OF COURSE
I'M HERE, BUT
I STILL HAVE NOT
HAD A CHANCE TO
LOCATE OUR FRIEND.
AS I TOLD YOU
AN HOUR AGO, I AM
IN THE MIDDLE OF
MY FINAL
EXAMINATION HERE
AT THE LEARNING
INSTITUTE--

--AND I DO
NOT HAVE THE
CONCENTRATION
TO SPARE FOR
MAKING RANDOM
GALAXY-WIDE
TELEPATHIC
SWEEPS!



UM, A DIFFERENT
FAVOR, EPPY. IT WON'T
TAKE NEARLY AS
MUCH BRAINPOWER. I
NEED TO CONTACT
SOME PEOPLE FAST!



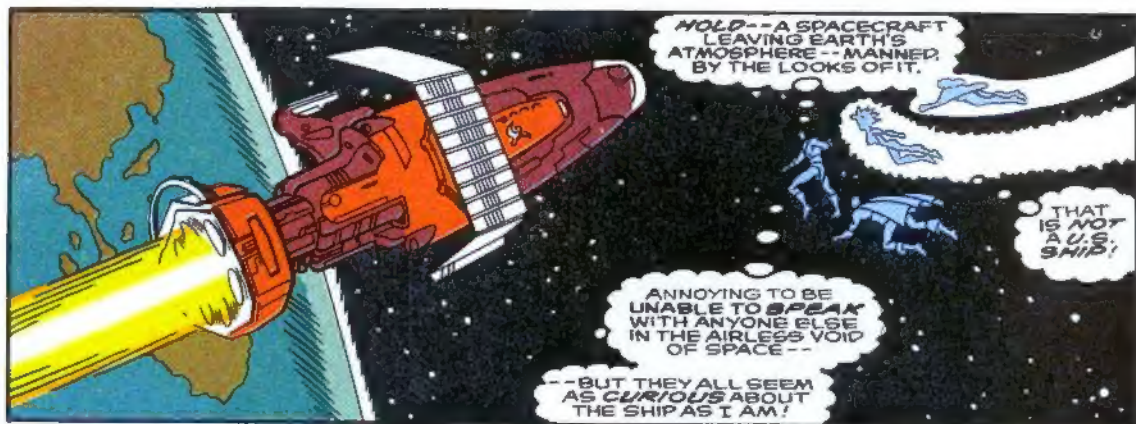
"WASN'T IT YOUR PEOPLE WHO
DEVELOPED THE COMMUNICATION
DEVICE CALLED THE TELEPHONE?
IT'S ON MY LIST."

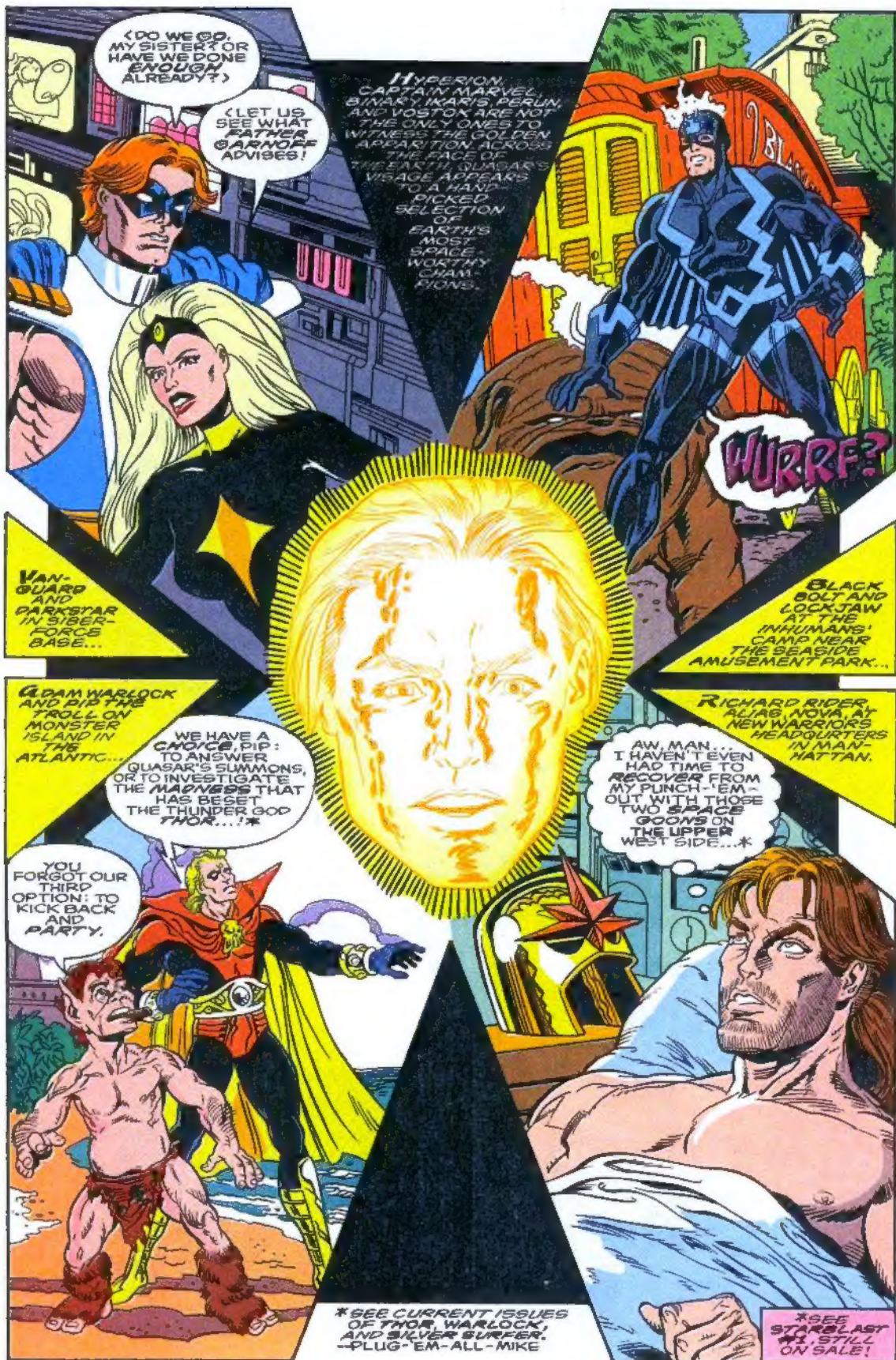
"YES, BUT THE PEOPLE
I NEED TO TALK TO
AREN'T REACHABLE
BY 'PHONE!'"

CAPTAIN MARVEL...
BINARY... IKARIS...
THE EARTH HERE
HAS PRODUCED
AN ASTOUNDING
ARRAY OF
SUPERHUMANS...

ENOUGH TO MAKE
MY HOME WORLD
LOOK LIKE QUITE
THE LINDERACHIEVER.

GLAD THAT I'M NOT THE ONLY
ONE UNABLE TO TELEPORT
BACK TO EARTH...





<DO WE GO,
MY SISTER? OR
HAVE WE DONE
ENOUGH
ALREADY?>

<LET US
SEE WHAT
FATHER
GARNOFF
ADVISES!>

HYPERION,
CAPTAIN MARVEL,
BARRY ALLEN'S PERUN,
AND VOSTOK ARE NOT
THE ONLY ONES TO
WITNESS THE GOLDEN
APPEARANCE ACROSS
THE FACE OF
THE EARTH. QUASAR'S
VISAGE APPEARS
TO A HAND-
PICKED
SELECTION
OF
EARTH'S
MOST
SPACE
WORTHY
CHAMPIONS.

WURRF?

**VAN-
GUARD
AND
DARKSTAR
IN SIBER-
FORCE
BASE...**

**BLACK
BOLT AND
LOCKJAW
AT THE
INHUMANS'
CAMP NEAR
THE SEASIDE
AMUSEMENT PARK...**

**ADAM WARLOCK
AND PIP THE
TROLL ON
MONSTER
ISLAND IN
THE
ATLANTIC...**

WE HAVE A
CHOICE, PIP:
TO ANSWER
QUASAR'S SUMMONS,
OR TO INVESTIGATE
THE MADNESS THAT
HAS BESET
THE THUNDER GOD
THOR...!*

YOU
FORGOT OUR
THIRD
OPTION: TO
KICK BACK
AND
PARTY.

**RICHARD RIDER,
AKA AS, NOW AT
NEW WARRIORS
HEADQUARTERS
IN MAN-
HATTAN.**

AW, MAN...
I HAVEN'T EVEN
HAD TIME TO
RECOVER FROM
MY PUNCH-EM-
OUT WITH THOSE
TWO SPACE
GOONS ON
THE UPPER
WEST SIDE...*

*SEE CURRENT ISSUES
OF THOR, WARLOCK,
AND SILVER SURFER.
--PLUG-EM-ALL-MIKE

*SEE STARBELLAST
#1, STILL
ON SALE!

WHAT'S THE NOISE ABOUT THE MOON? LIKE I COULD DROP WHAT I'M DOING HERE IF I WANTED TO!

THUNDERSTRIKE, IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN...

THE VISION AND BLACK WIDOW AT THE COMMUNICATIONS ROOM AT AVENGERS HEADQUARTERS...

QUASAR MUST BE REFERRING TO THOSE REPORTS COMING IN FROM ALL THE OBSERVATORIES ON EARTH.

I WISH WE COULD KEEP TRACK OF WHEN QUASAR IS ON EARTH OR NOT.

DOCTOR SPECTRUM AND THE WIZARD IN PROTECT: PEGASUS...

HYPERION WAS SUPPOSED TO BE INVESTIGATING THAT SITUATION ON THE MOON, BUT HE'S YET TO REPORT BACK TO US. SHOULD WE WAIT FOR HIM OR RUN OFF?

MEGGAN, NIGHTCRAWLER, AND PHOENIX ON MUIR ISLAND...

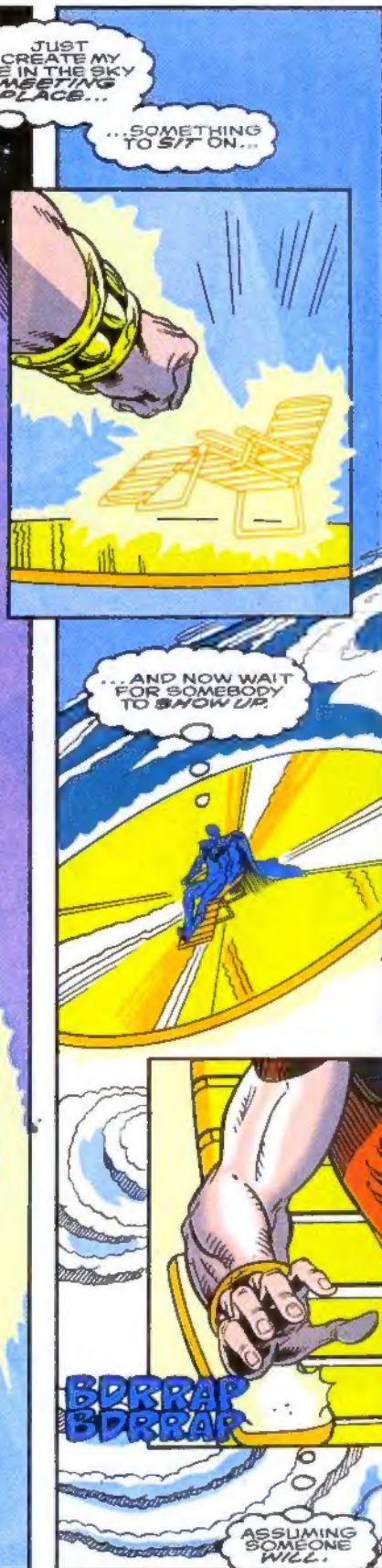
I REMEMBER THIS FELLOW.

SO DO I. I FOUGHT HIM ONCE. *

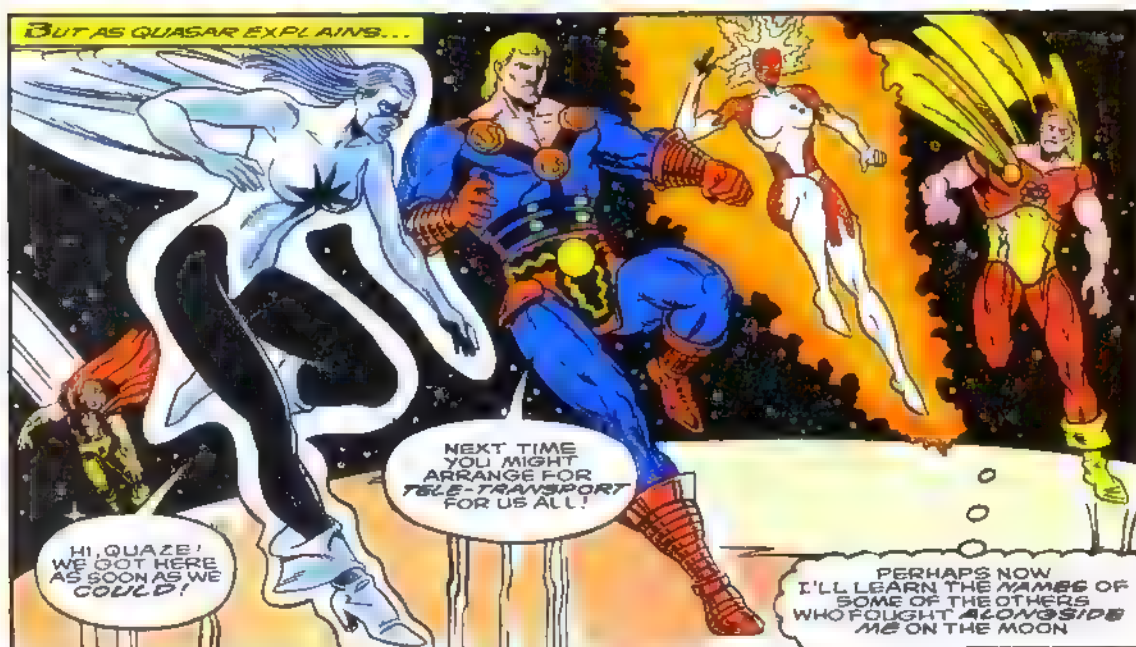
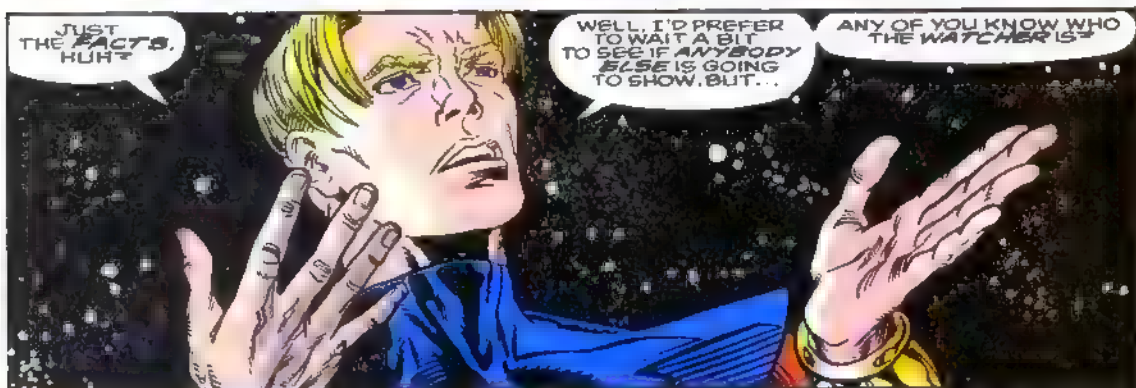
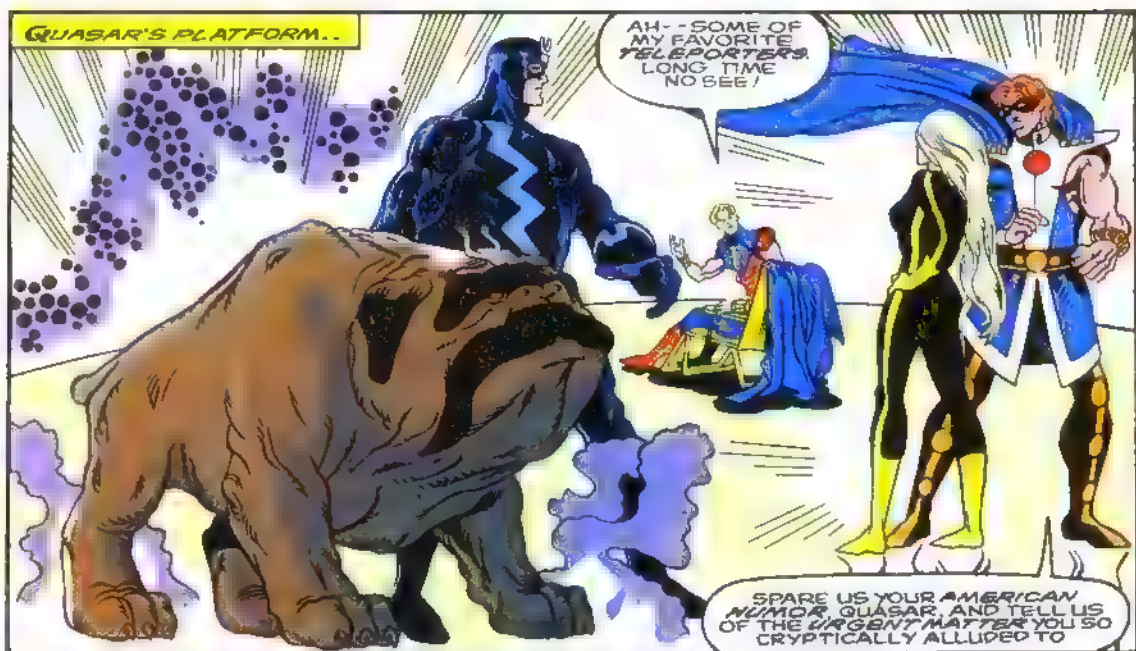
YOU'RE ASKING THE WRONG GUY. I'M ALWAYS UP TO RUN! LET'S CHECK WITH ZARDA!

I COULD PROBABLY MAKE IT TO HIS COORDINATES IN UNDER AN HOUR. THE QUESTION IS: IS THIS ANY OF EXCALIBUR'S CONCERN?

*WAY BACK IN QUASAR #11!
--MEMORY MAN MIKE







GREETINGS, YOUNG ONE
I AM ~~DEATH~~ LORD OF STORMS
I AM CHOSEN EMISSARY OF
THE PEOPLE'S PROTECTORATE
OF RUSSIA TO YOUR GATHERING
IS OKAY?

UH,
SURE IS
OKAY.

TAKE
A
SEAT.

I'VE GOT ONE FOR EVERYBODY.

HO! IS
USEFUL
POWER YOU
HAVE
MAKING
CHAIRS!

NOW THEN,
HERE'S WHAT'S
GOING ON.

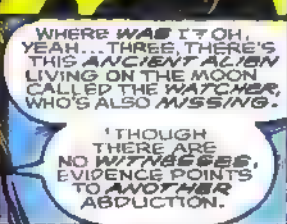
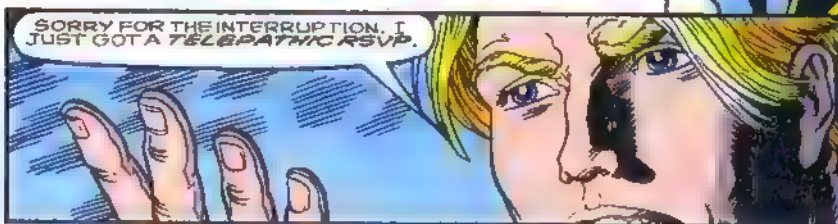
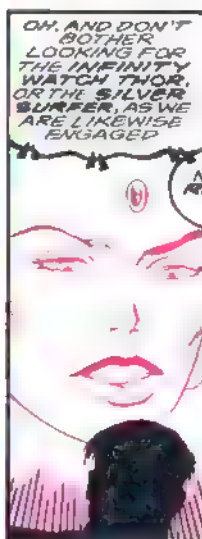
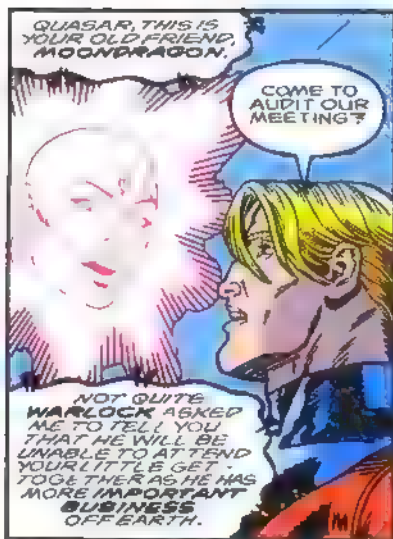
FIRST, SOME
UNIDENTIFIED
EXTRATERRESTRIAL
PARTIES PLANTED
GRAVITATIONAL DEVICE
ON THE FAR SIDE OF
THE MOON, POWERFUL
ENOUGH TO PUSH
THE MOON OUT
OF ORBIT...

SECOND, AN EARTH
WOMAN POSSESSING
A COSMIC POWER FROM
ANOTHER UNIVERSE HAS
BEEN KIDNAPPED.
A CREDIBLE
EYEWITNESS CLAIMS
IT WAS ALIENS.

BUT WITH
THE AID OF
SOME OF YOU
HERE, WE
DEACTIVATED
THE THING.

ONE MIGHT GUESS THE TWO INCIDENTS,
OCCURRING ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY,
WERE RELATED. I BELIEVE
THAT THE WHOLE MOON-MOVING BUSINESS
WAS JUST A DIVERSION SO THEY
COULD NAB THE GIRL!

THIRD--



THANKS, PEOPLE. I REALLY APPRECIATE THIS

NOW LET ME JUST PUT AN AIRTIGHT DOME OVER THIS FLYING COMPACT DISC--

AND EVEN AS THE DOME PLATF ORM REACHES THE STRATOSPHERE.

--AND WE'RE OFF--!

HEY! HELLO THERE!

HI YOURSELF!

MY NAME'S NOVA YOU--?

PHOENIX. YOU HEARD QUASAR'S MESSAGE, TOO, I TAKE IT?

YEAH SO WHERE IS THE CAPED COSMOID?

NOT PARTICULARLY I'VE JUST COME BACK FROM A SPACE TRIP AND I'M ALL SPACED OUT HOW'BOUT YOU?

I HAVE QUITE A LOT OF PERSONAL MATTERS TO ATTEND TO

I'LL CLAIM WE GOT HERE TOO LATE TO CATCH UP WITH IT IF YOU WILL.

I WOULD IMAGINE IN THAT GOLDEN DOME SOARING OUT OF SIGHT. WANT TO TRY CATCHING UP WITH IT?

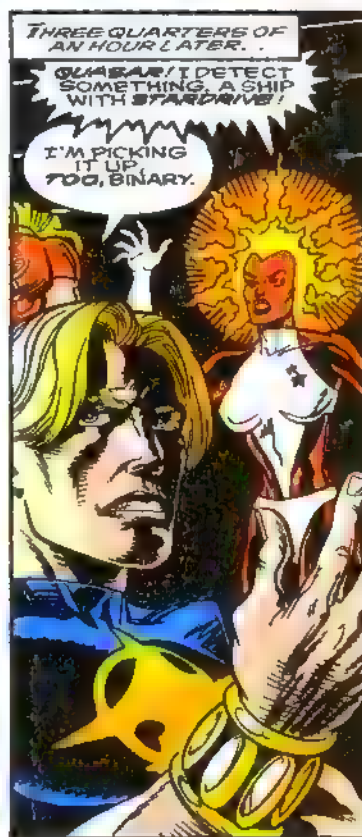
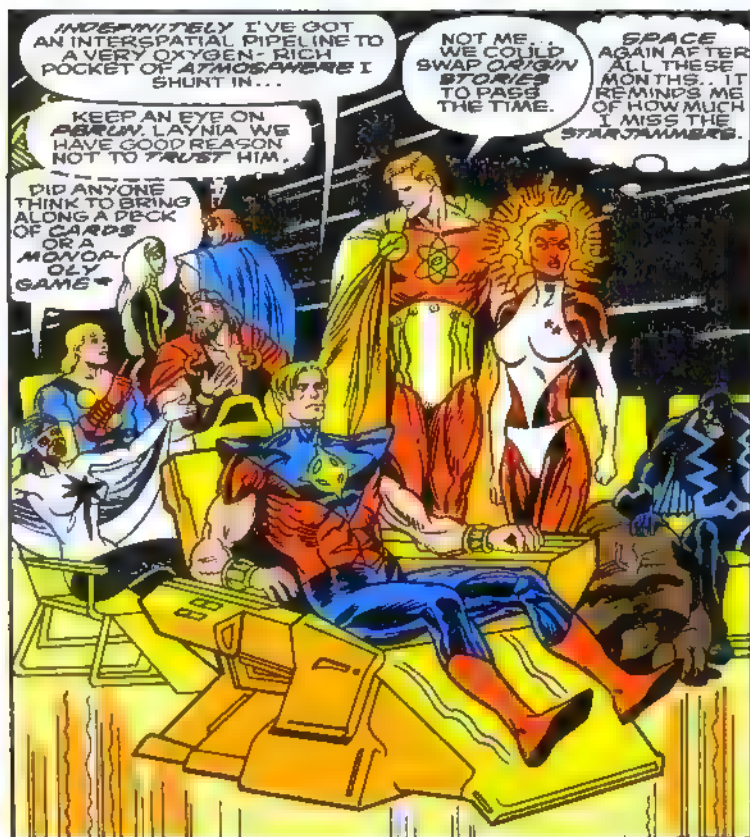
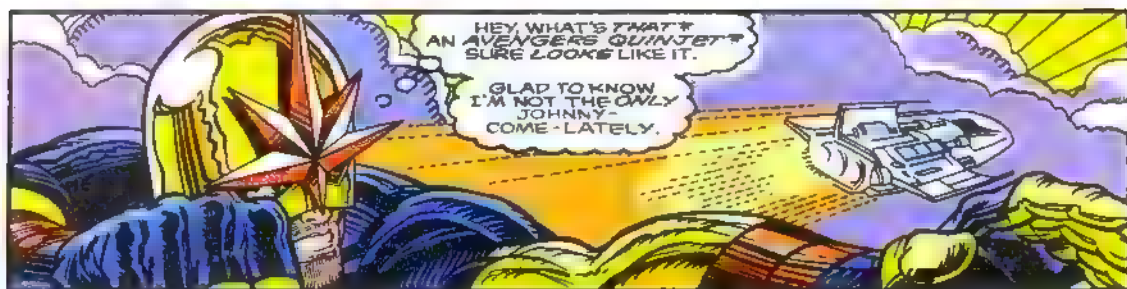
HOPE WE RUN INTO EACH OTHER AGAIN!

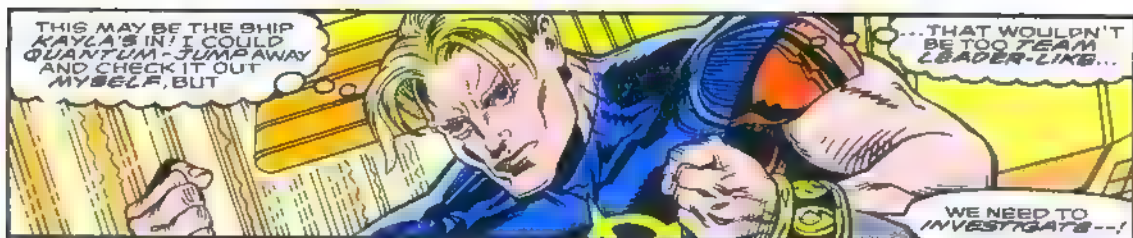
WELL, NICE MEETING YOU, PHOENIX!

SO DOZ

WOW!

YOU HAVE A DEAL, NOVA





THIS MAY BE THE SHIP
KAYLA'S IN! I COULD
QUANTUM-JUMP AWAY
AND CHECK IT OUT
MYSELF, BUT

... THAT WOULDN'T
BE TOO TEAM
LEADER-LIKE...

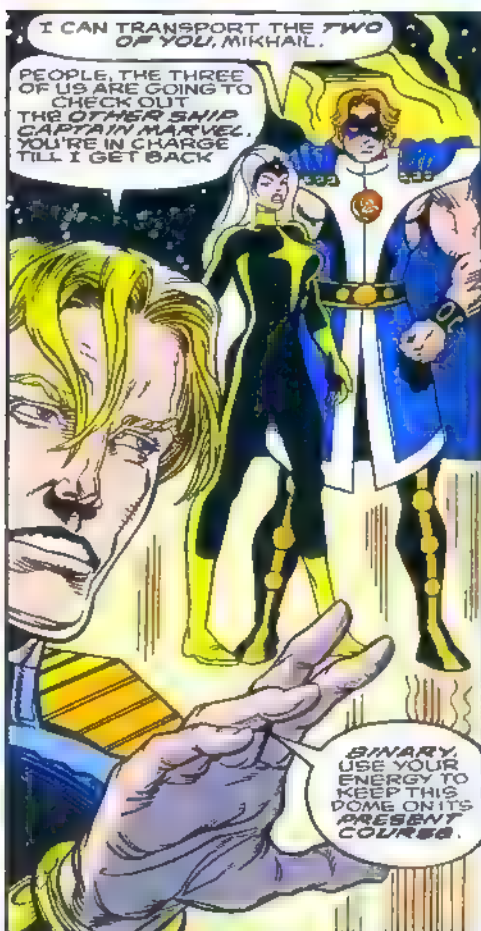
WE NEED TO
INVESTIGATE--!



I COULD
TELEPORT
ABOARD AND
RECONNOITER.
CONVENTIONAL
SCANNERS
CANNOT
DETECT MY
DARKFORCE!

ALL RIGHT.
TAKE ME
WITH YOU.

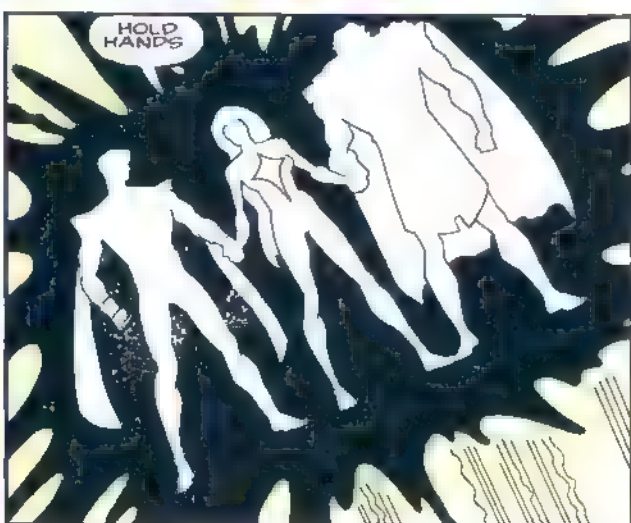
NO. WHERE
MY SISTER
GOES, I GO



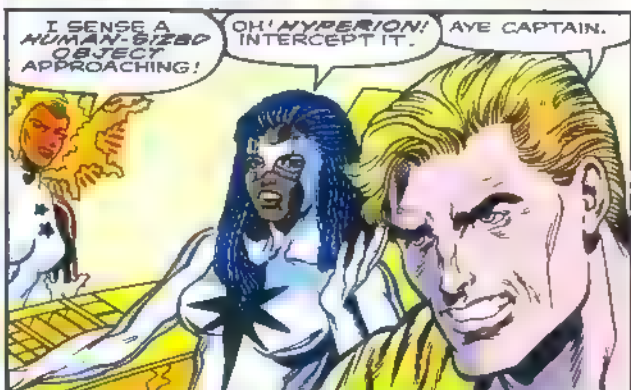
I CAN TRANSPORT THE TWO
OF YOU, MIKHAIL.

PEOPLE, THE THREE
OF US ARE GOING TO
CHECK OUT
THE OTHER SHIP.
CAPTAIN MARVEL,
YOU'RE IN CHARGE
TILL I GET BACK

BINARY,
USE YOUR
ENERGY TO
KEEP THIS
DOME ON ITS
PRESENT
COURSE.



HOLD
HANDS



I SENSE A
HUMAN-SIZED
OBJECT
APPROACHING!

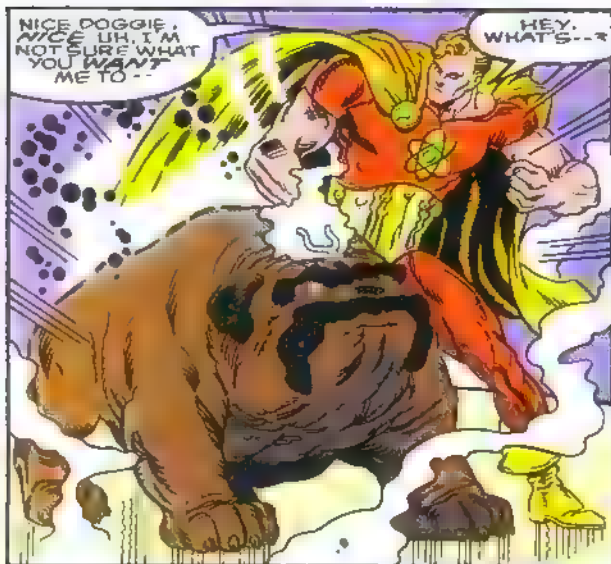
OH! HYPERION!
INTERCEPT IT.

AYE CAPTAIN.



HMM?

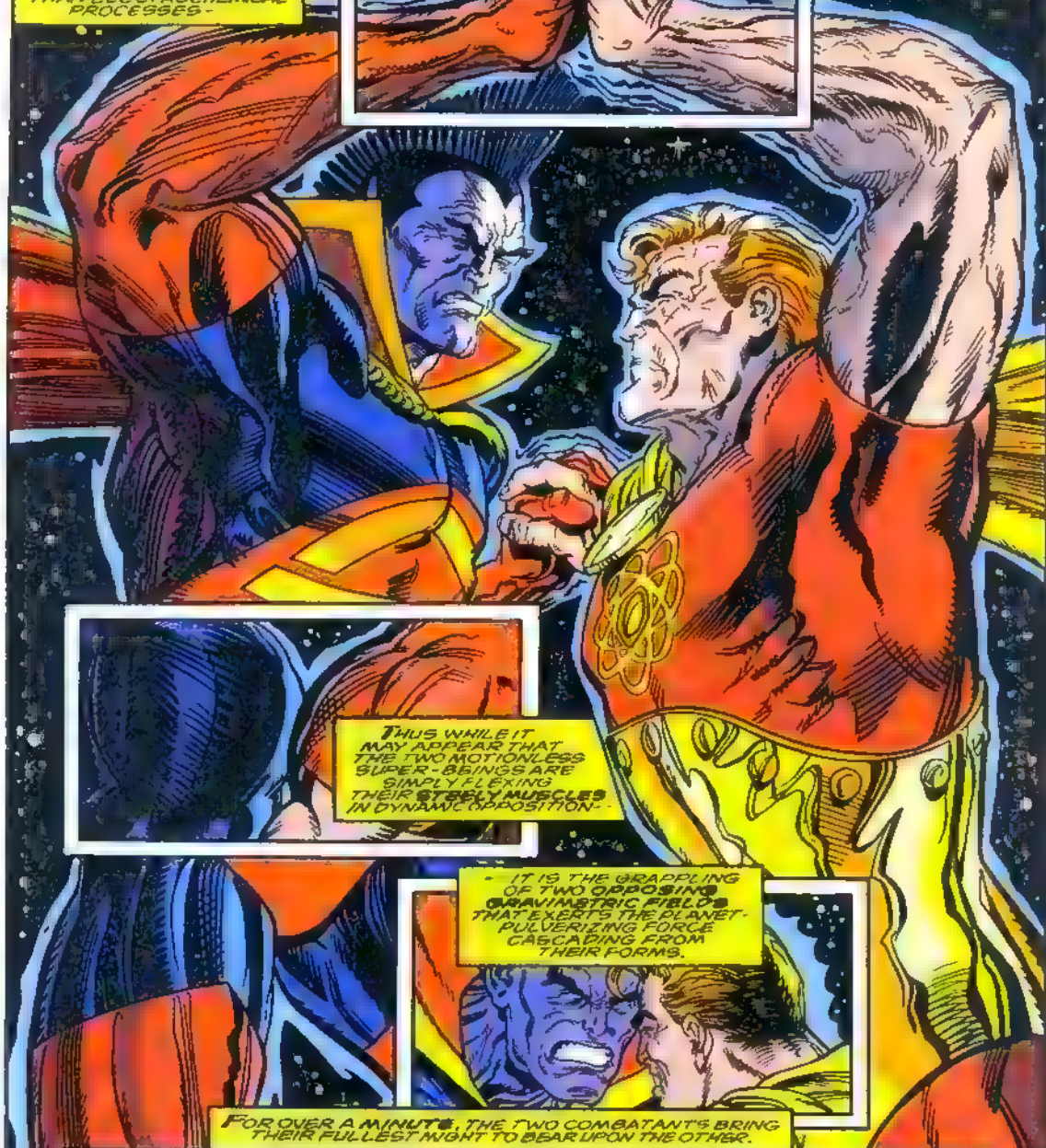
WHY'S THIS GUY
GESTURING TO
HIS DOOT HE WANTS
ME TO WALK IT?!



THE TWO TITANS ARE
UNCANNILY MATCHED

NOT ONLY ARE EACH OF
THEIR DIAMOND-HARD
PHYSQUES EMPOWERED
BY COSMIC RATHER
THAN ELECTROCHEMICAL
PROCESSES.

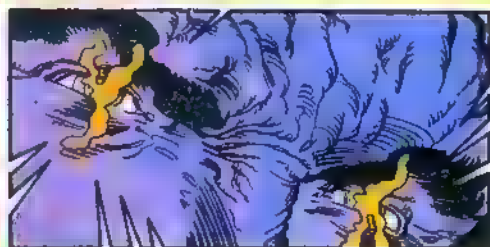
... THEY ALSO EACH
MENTALLY MANIPULATE
ANTI-GRAVITONS,
ENABLING THEM TO
BEND GRAVITY
TO THEIR WILLS.



THUS WHILE IT
MAY APPEAR THAT
THE TWO MOTIONLESS
SUPER-BEINGS ARE
SIMPLY FLEXING
THEIR STEELY MUSCLES
IN DYNAMIC OPPOSITION.

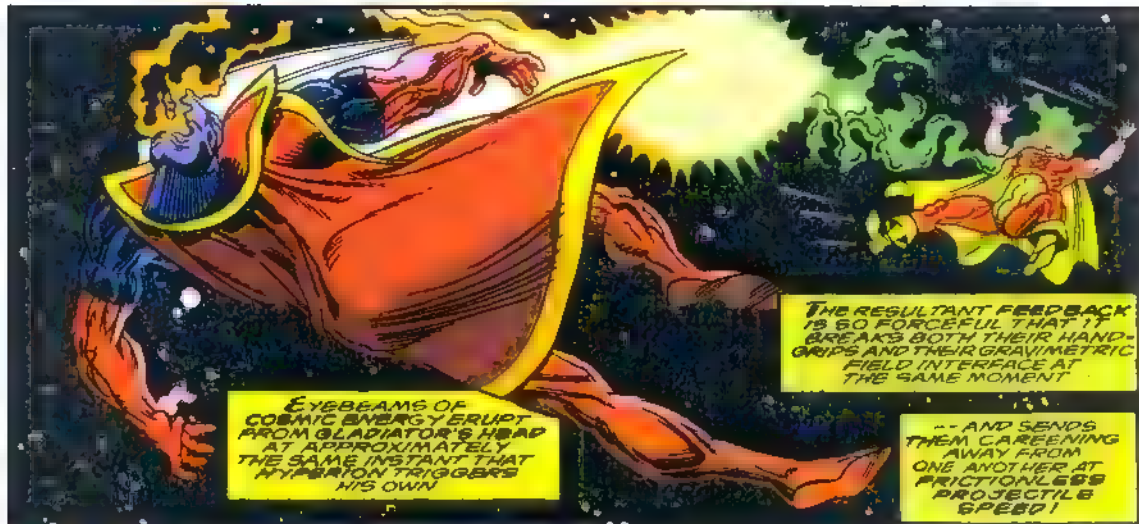
IT IS THE GRAPPLING
OF TWO OPPOSING
GRAVIMETRIC FIELDS
THAT EXERTS THE CLAVET-
PULVERIZING FORCE
CASCAIDING FROM
THEIR FORMS.

FOR OVER A MINUTE, THE TWO COMBATANTS BRING
THEIR FULLEST NIGHT TO BEAR UPON THE OTHER.



THEN, REALIZING THEY COULD BE DEADLOCKED THIS WAY FOR UNTOLD HOURS,
GLADIATOR RECALLS ANOTHER OF HIS ABILITIES THAT HE HOPES
HIS OPPONENT DOES NOT ALSO HAVE.

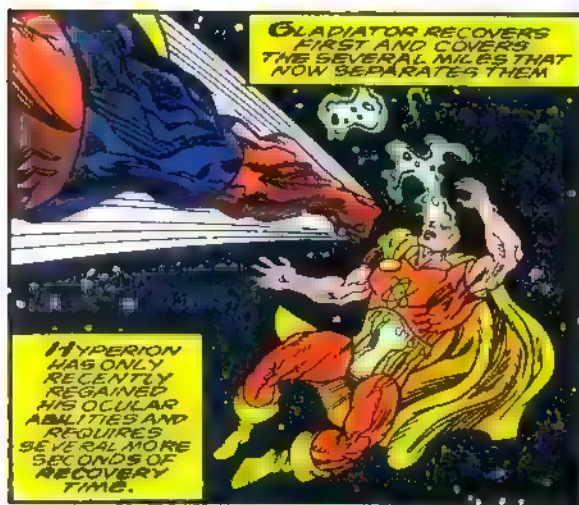
HIS HOPES
ARE
IN VAIN.



EYEBEAMS OF COSMIC ENERGY ERUPT FROM GLADIATOR'S HEAD AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME INSTANT THAT HYPERION TRIGGERS HIS OWN

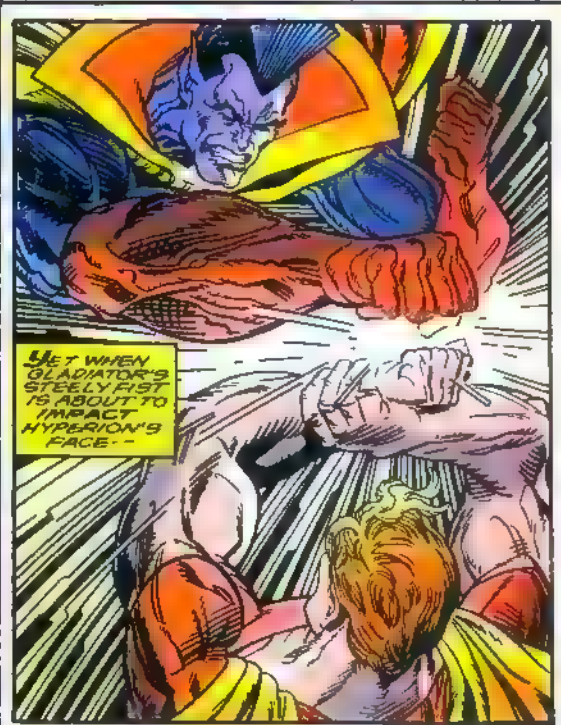
THE RESULTANT FEEDBACK IS SO FORCEFUL THAT IT BREAKS BOTH THEIR HANDGRIPS AND THEIR GRAVIMETRIC FIELD INTERFACE AT THE SAME MOMENT

-- AND SENDS THEM CAREENING AWAY FROM ONE ANOTHER AT FRICTIONLESS PROJECTILE SPEED!



GLADIATOR RECOVERS FIRST AND COVERS THE SEVERAL MILES THAT NOW SEPARATES THEM

HYPERION HAS ONLY RECENTLY REGAINED HIS OCULAR ABILITIES AND REQUIRES SEVERAL MORE SECONDS OF RECOVERY TIME.



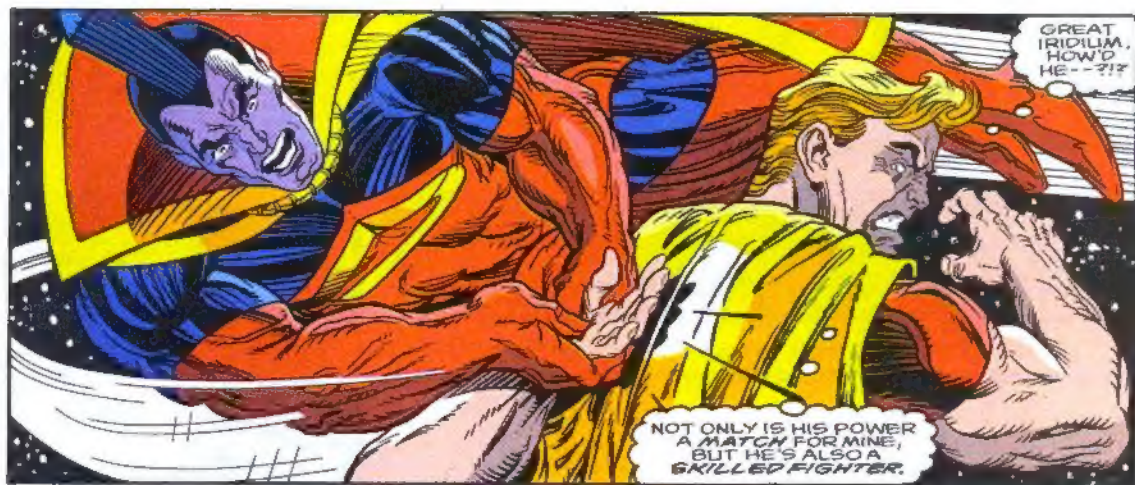
YET WHEN GLADIATOR'S STEELY FIST IS ABOUT TO IMPACT HYPERION'S FACE--



NANOSECONDS LATER...

THIS BEINGS BATTERY OF ATTRIBUTES RIVALS MY OWN! YET HE APPEARS TO BE OF BARTHLY ORIGIN!

DON'T KNOW WHAT MISTER MOHAWK WANTS, BUT IT'S BECOME A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE FOR ME TO FIND A WAY TO STOP HIM!



GREAT
IRIDIUM.
HOW'D
HE--?!!?

NOT ONLY IS HIS POWER
A MATCH FOR MINE,
BUT HE'S ALSO A
SKILLED FIGHTER.



WHERE I'M FROM
I ALMOST NEVER
ENCOUNTERED
ANYONE I COULD
GO ALL-OUT
WITH--

--SO I HAVEN'T
BEEN ABLE TO HONE
MY BATTLE SKILLS
PAST A CERTAIN POINT!



MOHAWK DOESN'T
SEEM TO HAVE HAD
THAT PROBLEM.

THAT MEANS,
I'M JUST GOING
TO HAVE TO GET
INVENTIVE!



IF THERE'S
ANYTHING IN
THE WORLD TOUGH
ENOUGH TO HURT
THIS GUY--

--MAYBE
STEELY SPIKES
PRODUCED BY
HIS OWN BODY
ARE IT!



DID
I GET
HIM?

BARBARIAN! YOU
NEARLY BLINDED
ME! RARRRRH!

THERE IS NO SOUND IN SPACE, YET HYPERION
COULD SWEAR THAT HIS EARS PERCEIVED THE SOUND
OF VERTEBRAE BREAKING MOMENTS BEFORE
BLACKNESS OVERTAKES HIM.

HE GOES LIMP
IN MY GRIP! I HAVE
VANQUISHED HIM.

...OR
KILLED
HIM.

WHERE IS THAT
QUADRUPED BEAST
THAT ACCOMPANIED
HIM? NOWHERE IN
THE VICINITY. IT
WOULD APPEAR.

I SHALL RETURN TO
THE IMPERIUM SHIP.
SEE IF I CAN REVIVE
MY OPPONENT AND
QUESTION HIM!

GOOD. NOW I CAN CONTINUE
MY MISSION AND DETERMINE WHO
APPROACHES OUR STARCRUISER!

THE DOME --
EMPTY
INSIDE!?!

PECULIAR.



HALFWAY TOWARD
THE SUN...

(INSIDIO!)

(SKELETRON!
NHEEEH - ARE
WE OUT OF THIS
BACKWATER
STAR
SYSTEM
YET?)

(NOT YET.
I'VE COME
TO INSPECT
YOUR
CHARGES.)

(RIGHT
THIS
WAY...)

(LET ME
REITERATE, I
DON'T WANT YOU
TOUCHING HER
IN ANY WAY. SHE
IS FAR TOO
DANGEROUS
TO TAMPER
WITH!)

(WHEN WE GET TO
OUR DESTINATION AND
HER POWER IS REMOVED,
THEN YOU CAN HAVE
HER. DO YOU
ACKNOWLEDGE?)

(PERFECTLY,
SIRE.)

(I AM QUITE CONTENT
FOR THE DURATION TO
PLAY MY TRADE ON
THIS DEAR FELLOW...
THIS WATCHER.)

THE EARTH'S
WATCHER REMAINS
MOTIONLESS, IF HIS
THOUGHTS WERE
KNOWABLE TO US,
WE MIGHT LEARN
THAT THE
STARBLASTERS
HAVE UNDERESTIMATED
HIS ABILITIES.

HE COULD
ESCAPE
ANYTIME
HE
WISHES.

BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE IN
THE UNIVERSE, THIS IS WHERE HE DESIRES
TO BE RIGHT NOW.

END